

526 (VI). Continuation of the regional economic commissions

The General Assembly,

Having considered the account of the activities of the regional economic commissions for Europe, Asia and the Far East, and Latin America contained in the report of the Economic and Social Council (chapter II)⁹,

Notes with satisfaction the valuable work which is being done by the regional economic commissions and the decision of the Economic and Social Council, contained in its resolution 414 (XIII), section C. I, of 20 September 1951, to continue them.

*365th plenary meeting,
26 January 1952.*

527 (VI). Living standards of the working population

The General Assembly,

Considering that general developments in the world economic situation since the fifth session of the General Assembly are likely to affect adversely the economic stability of many countries, and considering that, in addition, real wages in many countries have declined owing to price increases and inflation, a circumstance which may likewise adversely affect the living standards of the working population,

Bearing in mind that Article 55 of the Charter provides that the United Nations shall promote higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development, and that under Article 56 of the Charter the Member States have pledged themselves to take "joint and separate action in co-operation with the Organization" for the achievement of these purposes,

Considering that, in promoting economic progress, normal trade relations among all countries are most important for the raising of living standards in both exporting and importing countries,

Emphasizing the recommendations made by the Economic and Social Council at its twelfth and thirteenth sessions regarding the maintenance of living standards and of the purchasing power of the sections of the population with lower incomes, and regarding the prevention of the development of inflationary pressure and speculative profits,

1. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to continue to pay special attention to changes occurring in the standards of living of the working population, and to provide for the working out of adequate statistical methods and techniques so as best to facilitate the gathering and use of pertinent data in order to enable the Secretary-General to publish regular annual reports showing changes in absolute levels of living conditions in all countries and which would permit the study of this problem in the light of changing general economic conditions; and invites all Member States to

furnish to the Secretary-General all the data required for this purpose;

2. *Recommends* that all Members of the United Nations, in order to combat inflation and to maintain and raise the general standard of living of their populations, give special attention (i) in the domestic sphere, to increasing the production of food and consumer goods, to reducing the burden of taxation of the lower-income population groups, to adopting social legislation and other measures for improving conditions of health, housing and education and for strengthening trade-union rights; and (ii) in the international sphere, to promoting economic and commercial relations between all countries.

*365th plenary meeting,
26 January 1952.*

528 (VI). Production and distribution of newsprint and printing paper

The General Assembly

Notes with satisfaction:

1. The decision taken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its Conference,¹⁰ pursuant to the resolutions of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization¹¹ and of the Economic and Social Council,¹² to adopt a long-term programme to supply the world with newsprint and printing paper;

2. The decision taken by the Economic and Social Council to study at its fourteenth session the report to be prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to Council resolution 374 (XIII) regarding measures "to improve the position and ultimately put an end to the shortage of newsprint and printing paper", both "with a view to immediate results" and "with a view to action over a longer period".

*365th plenary meeting,
26 January 1952.*

529. (VI). Libya: problem of war damages

The General Assembly,

Having examined and noted the report¹³ of the Secretary-General containing a general survey of the problem of war damages in Libya, submitted in accordance with resolution 389 (V) adopted by the General Assembly on 15 December 1950,

Having heard a statement¹⁴ made by a representative of the United Kingdom of Libya,

Believing that the problem of war damages should be considered within the general framework of the over-all economic development plans for the country,

⁹ See resolution No. 26 adopted on 7 December 1951 by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its sixth session.

¹⁰ See resolution adopted on 13 July 1951 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its sixth session. See also documents E/2052/Add. 1 and Corr. 1.

¹¹ See resolution 374 (XIII) adopted on 13 September 1951 by the Economic and Social Council.

¹² See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixth Session, Annexes*, agenda item 21, document A/2000.

¹³ *Ibid.*, Second Committee, 189th meeting.

¹⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixth Session, Supplement No. 3.*